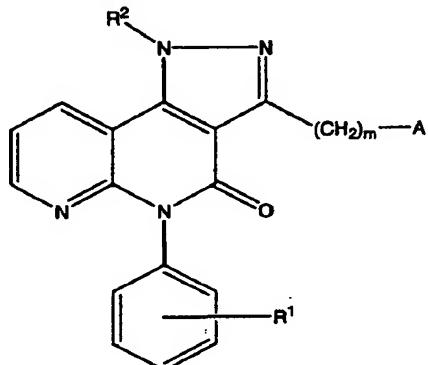


Abstract of the Disclosure

The target is to provide PDE IV inhibitors which have a highly potent anti-asthmatic and/or COPD-prophylactic/therapeutic profile with unexpectedly excellent safety. A compound of the formula (1):



(1)

wherein A is phenyl, pyridyl, 1-oxypyridyl, or thienyl, which may be unsubstituted or optionally substituted with one or more members selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, halogen, cyano, nitro, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylcarbonyloxy, amino, carboxyl, lower alkoxy-carbonyl, carboxy-lower alkylene, lower alkoxy carbonyl-lower alkylene, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower alkylsulfonyl-amino, and ureido; R<sup>1</sup> is a group selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halogen, cyano, nitro, lower alkoxy, amino, carboxyl, and lower alkoxy carbonyl; R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen or lower alkyl; and m is an integer of 1 to 3; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, possesses highly excellent PDE IV-specific inhibitory actions and is useful as an anti-asthmatic drug and/or a prophylactic/therapeutic drug for COPD with high safety.